

I claim:

1. A method for concealing upper mounts for shutters, comprising the steps of:  
installing an attachment mount having a lower facing channel within a soffit  
5 portion above a window;  
inserting an upper edge of a shutter into the lower facing channel; and  
covering the window with the shutter, wherein substantially the entire attachment  
mount is not visible from an exterior side of the shutter.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the inserting the edge step further includes the  
step of:  
inserting a portion an elongated trim into a groove within the attachment mount.
- 15 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the elongated trim includes:  
a J-shaped decorative trim.
- 20 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
inserting a horizontal leg portion of a J-shaped decorative trim into a horizontal  
sleeve portion of the attachment mount.
- 25 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the installing step further includes:  
attaching the channel to an exterior wall above the window and into the soffit  
portion.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the attaching step further includes:  
fastening the channel to the exterior wall with removable fasteners.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:  
attaching a lower edge of the shutter beneath the window.
8. A concealed retaining channel system, comprising in combination:
  - 5 a structure having a soffit overhang above an exterior window;
  - a channel assembly having a lower facing channel;
  - means for installing the channel assembly within the soffit overhang; and
  - an upper edge of a shutter being inserted into the lower facing channel of the flange so that the shutter covers the exterior window, wherein the channel assembly
- 10 remains substantially concealed from an exterior view of the structure.
9. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 8, wherein the channel assembly further includes:
  - 15 a side groove within the channel for receiving an edge of the soffit overhang;
10. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 9, further comprising:
  - an elongated trim attached to a front lower portion of the channel assembly and
  - having a visible portion beneath the soffit overhang.
- 20 11. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 10, wherein the elongated trim includes:
  - 15 a J-shaped decorative trim having a leg portion for fitting within a groove within the front lower portion of the channel assembly.
- 25 12. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 8, wherein the lower facing channel includes:
  - 15 a rear wall and a front wall.

13. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 12, further comprising:  
an L-shaped mounting plate for attaching the rear wall of the channel assembly to  
a portion of an exterior wall above the window.

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14. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 13, further comprising:  
removable fasteners for attaching the channel assembly to the portion of the  
exterior wall above the window.

10 15. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 8, further comprising:  
means for attaching the soffit into a lower edge of the channel assembly.

16. The concealed retaining channel system of claim 15, wherein the attachment  
means includes:

15 a J-shaped decorative trim.

17. A concealed retaining channel for shutters, comprising:

a rear elongated vertical leg;

a front elongated vertical leg;

20 an elongated cap attached to top portions of the rear elongated vertical leg and the  
front elongated vertical leg forming a lower facing channel therebetween;

a horizontal planar member attached to and substantially perpendicular to a lower  
portion of the front elongated vertical leg, wherein a shutter having an upper edge fits  
within the lower facing channel.

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18. The concealed retaining channel of claim 17, further comprising:

an elongated trim attached to and hanging beneath the horizontal planar member, the trim for receiving an edge of a soffit portion of an overhang.

19. The concealed retaining channel of claim 17, further comprising:
  - 5 an integral bracket attached to the rear vertical leg for attaching the concealed retaining channel to a wall above a window.